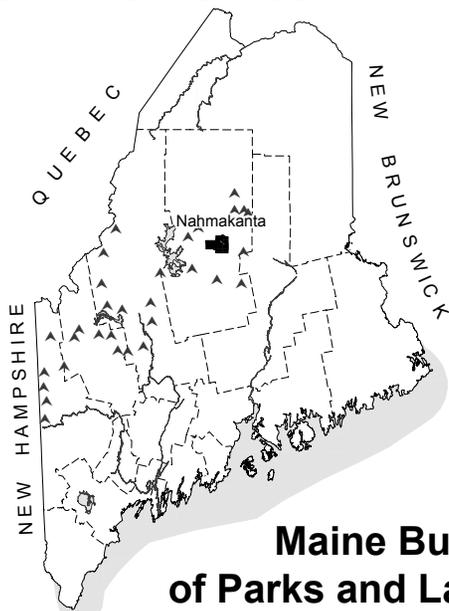
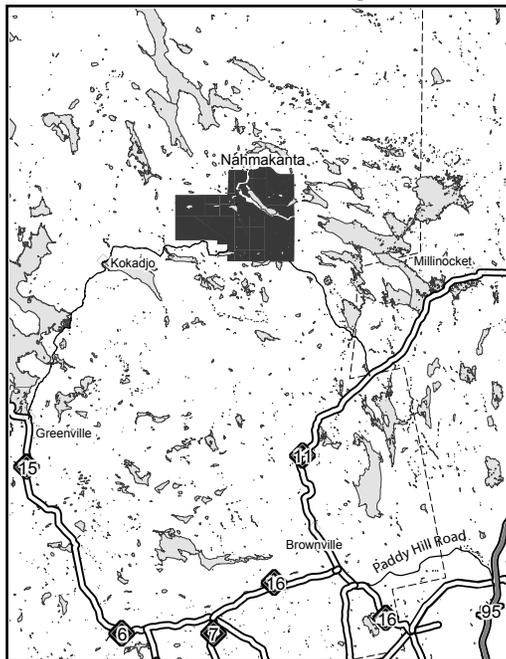


Nahmakanta



**Maine Bureau
of Parks and Lands
Department of Conservation**

Location Map



About Nahmakanta

Located in central Piscataquis County about half-way between Greenville and Millinocket, the Nahmakanta Unit is one of Maine's largest units of public reserved land. Comprising nearly 44,000 acres, it is rich in natural resources, including hills and mountains, gorges and swift streams, and many lakes, ponds, and wetlands.

This unit also boasts Maine's largest ecological reserve, located in the Debsconeag Lakes region northeast of Nahmakanta Lake. Set aside to help protect Maine's biological diversity, the reserve includes good examples of many ecological communities, where natural processes will continue with minimal human interference or manipulation. With its remote ponds, hills with scenic views, and vast roadless forests, Nahmakanta offers unparalleled opportunities for backcountry recreation.

Hiking A good day-hike for a fit hiker is the 9-mile Turtle Ridge Trail with its hills, ponds, and vistas. Hikers can also do shorter loops, starting from the trailheads on Long Pond Rd. or on Jo-Mary Rd. For remote hiking and camping, the 12.5-mile Debsconeag Backcountry Trail offers great opportunities. From either trailhead, hikers can explore the ecological reserve on long or shorter loops. Also, the Appalachian Trail traverses the unit for 9 miles.

Fishing and Hunting Brook trout in the ponds and streams and salmon in Nahmakanta Lake lure anglers to hike in or fish from small boats, launched at the hand-carry, gravel boat launch sites. Hunting is mostly for grouse, deer, and bear. Fishing and hunting are allowed on the unit, subject to state law. Please note rules restricting firearms on and around campsites, trails, and boat launch sites.

Camping From the backcountry experience to the cabins at two private sporting camps, this unit offers a range of camping options. The map shows all authorized campsites. While visitors may camp elsewhere on the unit, they may not build fires. Drive-to sites are for tents or pick-up campers, except for Musquash Field, which can accommodate small RVs and camper trailers. Available on a first-come, first-served basis with no fees or permits required, all campsites have a table, fire ring, and nearby pit toilet. Please help protect this area for all by obeying rules regarding fires and by

**Tumbledown
Dick Falls in
its deep,
narrow gorge
is the largest
of several
waterfalls on
the unit. The
falls can be
reached via a
side trail off
the Appala-
chian Trail.**



Wildlife Watching Because of its great variety of habitats, this unit has great diversity of wildlife. In 1992, researchers noted 86 species of birds on the unit, and they were not even looking for birds! Loons call on the lakes, moose feed in the shallows, and the endangered peregrine falcon is a regular summer visitor here.

Enjoying Winter Visitors enjoy cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, and especially snowmobiling on popular ITS 86 and club trails. Snowmobiling on plowed roads is prohibited. The bureau does not encourage riding on lakes because of potential hazards and dangerous areas. Nahmakanta Lake offers ice fishing, per IF&W rules.

Getting There Look for blue signs at junctions. **From Route 11**, about half-way between Millinocket and Brownville Jct., turn north on the Jo-Mary Rd. Follow it 15 mi. to the unit. To cross the KI/Jo-Mary Multiple-Use Forest to reach the unit, **visitors must pay day-use fees at the Jo-Mary Gate** (Apr. - Nov.). **From Greenville**, take the Lily Bay Rd. north for 20 mi. to Kokadjo. Bear left at fork 1/4 mi. beyond Kokadjo General Store. After 2 mi., turn right onto Second Roach Pond Rd. (wide gravel road near top of long grade). Continue 5 mi. to a 4-way intersection. Turn left on a road that *may* be marked ITS 86. After 7.5 mi., bear left at intersection just west of Penobscot Pd., and travel 1.5 mi. to enter the unit.

For more information about this unit, contact
Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands
P. O. Box 415, Old Town, ME 04468
Tel: (207) 827-1818 FAX: (207) 827-6295

Enjoy Your Public Lands

You will find Maine's public reserved lands throughout the state, often beyond the limits of named townships and paved roads. Twenty-nine units (large parcels, often with thousands of acres) include a variety of landscapes reflecting the rugged character and natural beauty of Maine.

The Department of Conservation's Bureau of Parks and Lands administers these lands for public enjoyment and recreational use. The units' large size allows for effective ecosystem and remote recreation management. The bureau manages these lands to provide wildlife habitat, protect outstanding natural features, provide recreation opportunities, and grow high-value forest products to generate revenues to maintain these areas.

To preserve the natural character of these lands, the bureau has developed mostly primitive recreational facilities. Recreation in remote areas requires self-reliance. Camping, hiking, and fishing are among the most popular activities.



Most units have rustic campsites. Some are accessible by vehicle, others by boat or on foot, usually on a first-come, first-served basis. Visitors with large RVs should call the bureau in advance, since few sites can accommodate them. Fees are charged at certain campsites, such as those on Richardson Lake and within the North Maine Woods, as they are maintained privately under agreements with the bureau.



The bureau maintains hiking trails on many units to offer visitors the chance to get away from it all and enjoy some of Maine's exceptional natural environments. The famous Appalachian Trail crosses public reserved lands in several places, including the Mahoosuc, Four Ponds, Bigelow Preserve, and Nahmakanta Units.



Fishing and boating are popular activities, and many units have small, unpaved boat launch sites. All public reserved lands are available for hunting and fishing, subject to state law.

More Outdoor Recreation Opportunities

Acadia National Park	(207) 288-3338
Baxter State Park	723-5140
Maine Forest Service - Fire permits/campsite information:	
Ashland 435-7963	Greenville 695-3721
Augusta 624-3700	Old Town 827-1800
Maine Dept. of Inland Fisheries & Wildlife	287-8000
Hunting and fishing licenses	287-8000
Boat/snowmobile registration	287-2043
Maine Office of Tourism	www.visitmaine.com
Mattawamkeag Wilderness Park	736-4881
Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge	454-3521
North Maine Woods	435-6213
Rachel Carson National Wildlife Refuge	646-9226
Wells National Estuarine Research Reserve	646-1555
White Mountains National Forest	824-2134
Maine Bureau of Parks and Lands	287-3821

Regional Offices

State Parks	Public Lands
Southern 624-6080	Northern 435-7963
Northern 941-4014	Eastern 827-1818
	Western 778-8231

www.maine.gov/doc/parks

Leave No Trace

1. Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the area's rules and special concerns.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards, and emergencies.
- Schedule your trip to avoid busy times.
- Visit in small groups (4-6).
- Repackage food to minimize waste.
- Use a map and compass instead of marking paint, rock cairns, or flagging.

2. Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Durable surfaces include existing trails and campsites, rock, gravel, dry grass, or snow.
- Good campsites are found, not made. Altering a site is not necessary.
- In popular areas:
 - Use only existing trails and campsites;
 - Walk single file in the middle of the trail, even when wet or muddy;
 - Keep campsites small; focus activity in areas where vegetation is absent.
- In pristine areas:
 - Disperse use; avoid creating campsites/trails;
 - Avoid places starting to show impacts.

3. Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack it in, pack it out. Inspect your camping and resting areas for waste. Pack out all trash, leftover food, and litter.
- Deposit solid human waste in privies or catholes dug 6 to 8 inches deep at least 200 feet from water, camp, and trails. Cover and disguise the cathole when finished.
- Pack out toilet paper and hygiene products.
- To wash yourself or dishes, carry water 200 feet from stream or lake and use a little biodegradable soap. Scatter strained dishwater.

4. Leave what You Find

- Look, but do not touch cultural/historic artifacts.
- Leave rocks, plants and other natural objects as you find them.
- Avoid introducing or transporting alien species.
- Do not make structures, furniture, or trenches.

5. Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Always carry a stove; fires may not be feasible or desirable.
- Where fires are permitted, use established fire rings, fire pans, and mound fires.

- Keep fires small. Only use sticks from the ground that can be broken by hand.
- Burn all wood to ash, put out fire completely, and then scatter cool ashes.

6. Respect Wildlife

- Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed wildlife; it harms their health, alters behavior, and exposes them to predators.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.
- Always control pets, or leave them at home.
- Avoid wildlife during sensitive times: mating, nesting, raising young, or winter.

7. Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Respect other visitors and protect the quality of their experience.
- Be courteous. Yield to other users on the trail.
- Step to the downhill side of the trail when encountering horses.
- Rest and camp away from trails and visitors.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Avoid loud voices and noises.